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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Boys & Girls Haven Inundated with Donations after Recent Fire

The full service foster care agency is receiving hundreds of supplies from local businesses and families after 16 young people in the Pre-Independent Living Program lost their apartments to fire.

Louisville, KY – Since an early morning fire on November 27th destroyed the Boys & Girls Haven Pre-Independent Living building, the agency has received hundreds of physical donations to meet the immediate needs of the 16 teens who lived in the apartments. Donations include everything from basic clothing like socks, underwear and jackets, to hygiene items, bedding, and other home goods.

“We are absolutely overwhelmed by the generosity of our community. Louisville is truly a compassionate city,” says Boys & Girls Haven CEO, Read Harris. “While most of our young people escaped with only the clothes on their backs, our community rallied without delay to meet every urgent need.”

Due to the influx of donations, Boys & Girls Haven no longer has the sorting and storage capacity to accept further physical donations.

“Thanks to the outpouring of support, our kids are equipped with everything they need to get back to daily life in their temporary living spaces,” says Read. “At this point, we are focusing on what will prove to be an extended recovery period. This means finding a compact living space where we can keep all of our kids together and that meets the specific needs of our Pre-Independent Living Program. It could be several months before the young people are in permanent apartments.”

For individuals who would like to assist with the long term recovery period, Boys & Girls Haven is still accepting gift cards and cash donations to cover the needs of the teens and the Pre-Independent Living Program as youth transition into longer term placements over the next few weeks.

Gift card and cash donations can be delivered to Boys & Girls Haven’s residential campus at 2301 Goldsmith Lane between the hours of 9 am – 5 pm on weekdays. Cash donations can also be made online at www.HomeAndAFuture.org.

[Boys & Girls Haven](http://www.BoysAndGirlsHaven.org) is a full-service foster care agency located in Louisville, Kentucky. Since 1948, the 501c3 nonprofit has transformed the lives of thousands of abandoned, abused and neglected children by providing stability, education, and life skills that will lead to success in adulthood. We employ a multifaceted, therapeutic approach including residential and in-home foster care, transitional and independent living programs, career and life skills training, preventative community-based counseling services, and a variety of other programs and services.

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